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JUL 09 2007

Abstract of Disclosure [currently ammended]

[0061] ~~A nasal cannula providing gas delivery with greater comfort for the patient is disclosed. The material properties of the support tubing and the novel shape and light weight of the nosepiece provide consistent and proper positioning and orientation of the gas delivery nares within the nostrils with very little tension on the tubing, thus eliminating sores on the ears and under the nose, grooves or creases on the face and tightness under the chin. The nares are shaped to direct the gas flow into the open chamber of the pharynx rather than against the nasal walls thus eliminating ulcerous conditions and the tips of the nares are so flexible that the presence of the device within the nostrils causes little sensation to the wearer. Further, the elasticity of the tubing allows the user to pull the unit away from the nose to provide temporary access for a tissue to blow one's nose. Due to the special properties of the tubing, the device recovers from the coiled shape in the package immediately upon removal thus providing an immediate proper and comfortable fit and the unit remains flexible in cold weather. This device is also useful for sensing breathing patterns to study ventilation or for sampling exhaled gases.~~

A nasal cannula that combines extremely flexible tubing and a novel vee-shaped nosepiece that fits the contour of the face and provides a stable footing and is self-righting because more than half its weight is below the tubing attachment points. Gas delivery prongs are molded at an angle relative to the body to direct gas into the center of the nostrils. The tubing is made from ultra-high molecular weight PVC resin with hardness between 40 and 75 Shore A.